

bably the remains of these ships that are in Bedford Basin near the Three-mile house, and also close to Navy Island.

The weather on the morning of the 13th was more favorable, and accordingly the entire fleet, consisting of seven sail of the line, twenty-three frigates or transports, two snows, two brigs, a dogger, four schooners and three sloops, hoisted sail at sunrise, and soon after stood for sea, before a fair wind from the north. On board the ships were fifty Acadians from Minas who were to act as pilots when the fleet approached Annapolis. The day after the fleet put to sea, several small craft were despatched to France. Deaths still took place, and an eye-witness states that each day he saw a great number of corpses cast into the waves.

On the 14th, a heavy east-south-east gale burst upon the fleet. The storm was succeeded by a calm and a thick fog, in which the ships became separated. During the night of the 15th a council was held on board the flag-ship, at which the officers, utterly dispirited, decided to abandon finally the expedition and return immediately to France. The flag of truce with the exchanged prisoners, and also the Acadian pilots, were accordingly dismissed the next day. No intimation was given them, however, of the alteration in the commander's plans. The course of the fleet was then changed. Misfortune still followed it, and on October 24th another storm was encountered and the ships again scattered. Deaths were still frequent, and it was even feared that there would not ultimately be enough healthy seamen to work the ships. The condition of the troops was equally as bad, and of eleven companies only ninety-one men were reported free from sickness.

It is said that two of the detached ships entered Annapolis Basin where they expected to meet the rest of the fleet; but on not finding the latter, and seeing a British ship of the line and a frigate anchored in the bay, they immediately retired.

On November 26th, after a voyage of forty-four days, a portion of the fleet reached Port Louis on the west coast of France, and found there several ships of the squadron that had earlier made port. One of these latter ships was the frigate "La Palme," of whose homeward voyage a horrible tale was told. When the storm of September 3rd had subsided this ship found herself alone and with her provisions almost exhausted. It was decided to return to France immediately. The suffering on this homeward voyage was terrible. Daily rations were